

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A method for inserting a given node into ring operations of an ATM ring,
2 including the steps of:
3 A. operating the given node as a bypass for ATM traffic on the ring;
4 B. operating the given node to pass through virtual paths known to the given
5 node;
6 C. establishing connection to inter-ring management channel;
7 D. exchanging information between the given node and a ring hub node to operate
8 the given node as a pass through for the ATM traffic on other existing virtual path
9 connections on the ring;
10 E. assigning to the given node one or more virtual paths to direct traffic to and
11 from the given node over the ring;
12 F. communicating the virtual path assignment to all nodes on the ring; and
13 G. providing to the given node connection information for all of the virtual paths
14 and virtual circuits on the ring.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of providing connection information to the
2 given node includes providing routing tables to the given node.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of providing connection information further
2 includes providing the information from the hub node to the given node.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the step of providing connection information further
2 includes
3 i. providing an error checking code with the information, and
4 ii. at the given node checking the information with the error checking code to
5 determine that the information is correct.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of assigning the virtual path to the given node
2 further includes

~~1 19. The method of claim 14 wherein the step of communicating the virtual path
2 assignment to all of the nodes includes updating routing tables maintained by the nodes.~~

1 19. The method of claim 14 wherein the step of communicating the virtual path
2 assignment to all of the nodes includes updating routing tables maintained by the nodes.